

COUNTRY Approved For Release 2002/10/30 : CIA-RDP82-00457R012400060006-6

TOPIC Finsternwalde Airfield

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 7 to 24 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED [redacted]

REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1

PAGES 2

REMARKS [redacted]

RETURN TO CIA
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25X1

[redacted]

25X1

- Between 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 12 April 1952, there was local flying by two type-27 aircraft and one type-30 plane. The aircraft had their landing gear lowered when circling the field for about six minutes. Between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on 15 April, there was flying by jet bombers, including [redacted] 25X1
After flying was discontinued at 5:30 p.m., 5 jet bombers, including the blue number 12, 2 B-25s and 4 Pe-2s were observed at the field. All the aircraft were parked in front of the hangars. West of the hangars, along the edge of the woods were about 25 trucks and behind them were 8 AA guns whose barrels were pointed upward. (1) Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on 18 April, there was local flying by jet bombers including three type-27s [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] and a type-30 [redacted] A B-25 flew a large circle between 4:30 and 5 p.m. In the early morning of 21 April, ten jet bomber take-offs were heard. Flying was soon discontinued because of bad weather. On 24 April, there was no flying. 25X1

25X1

- At 10:45 a.m. on 12 April, 1 boxcar, 4 flatcars and 1 tank car left the airfield. Source observed about 20 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets on the boxcar and the flatcars were loaded with two trucks [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] addition to a tractor and 1 trailer with pneumatic tires. (2) According to a railroad employee, nine tank cars with petroleum arrived at the field on 12 and 19 April, coming from Riesa Harbor. The same railroadman said that gasoline arrived only in tank trucks from the direction of Ruhland. (3) 25X1

25X1

3.

[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

25X1

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 No Change in Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
 Class. Changed To: TS S (C)
 Auth.: HR 78-2
 Date: 15/09/78

25X1

SECRET

25X1

4.

5. Three different air force badges were observed in Finsterwalde. (5)

6. Between 9:45 a.m. and noon on 14 April, there was flying at the field by jet bombers. After 1 p.m., biplanes first circled the field and then practiced formation flying. At 1 p.m. on 15 April, jet bombers started flying in formations of three planes. Between 9:30 and 3 p.m. on 16 April, there was flying by jet bombers. A B-25 with the number 4 landed at 9:40 a.m. Between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 17 April, jet bombers and B-25s practiced flying individually and in flight formation. (6)

Comments.

(1) Heavy AA guns are reported from Finsterwalde airfield for the first time. Since early April 1952, heavy AA guns have also arrived at the other three bomber airfields in Brand, Jernuchen and Cottbus. It is not clear whether this strengthening of the airfield defenses, which apparently was ordered by a central headquarters, is connected with the practice alerts conducted by ground personnel at some airfields, which reflects an increased preparedness on the part of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. 25X1

(2)

25X1

For sketch of trailer, see

(3) Of the tank cars arriving from Riesa, only five were observed by another source. The statement that gasoline is being hauled only in tank trucks from the direction of Ruhland must refer to future shipments. In March and on 1 April, regular railroad tank cars with gasoline arrived at Finsterwalde airfield from the Velter depot or from Radchaul. 25X1

(4) The Finsterwalde test airfield is probably used by courier planes of the bomber corps headquarters and the headquarters of the Southern Bm Div, both of which are stationed in Finsterwalde.

(5) For sketches of these badges, see Annex. The badges are possibly worn by aerial gunners and bombardiers.

(6) This report confirms that the bomber regiments have progressed in their training on jet aircraft. According to previous information, the units are equipped with at least 10 jet planes and some B-25s. The exact number of aircraft at the field has not been determined because of the poor observation possibilities and the numerous hangars at the installation. It is also possible that a large portion of the Pe-2s assigned to the regiments are no longer stationed at the field. Two sources previously reported that two large formations of Pe-2s which left the field were not observed returning on the same day. However, no confirmation is available that all of the Pe-2s were transferred.

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4. At 4 p.m. on 2 April, two radio trucks occupied by soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epauletts [redacted]

25X1

25X1

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- (2) [redacted] For sketch of trailer, see annex.

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25X1

Air Force Badges Observed in Finsterwalde



golden badge
red star
red 3 on light blue
center section

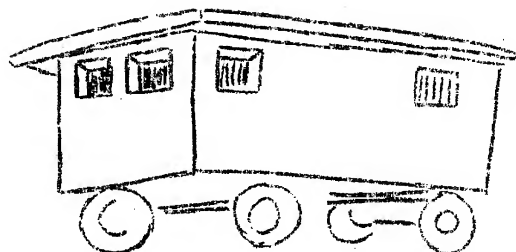


golden badge
red star
light blue bomb
red 3



golden badge
red star

Trailer



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25X1